

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 SAN JO 00018 032147Z

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SEC-01 PRS-01 H-01 CIAE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 RSC-01 /022 W

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R 032035Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8960

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAN JOSE 0018

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR PGOV CS

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR INTERVIEWS BY "LA NACION" REPORTER

1. EDGAR ESPINOSA, "LA NACION" REPORTER WHO HAS BEEN ASSIGNED PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE VESCO STORY, WILL BE VISITING THE UNITED STATES THE THIRD WEEK OF FEBRUARY. ESPINOSA WILL BE RETURNING FROM A TRIP TO TAIWAN AS A GUEST OF THE TAIWANESE GOVERNMENT. ESPINOSA HAS ASKED FOR ASSISTANCE IN OBTAINING APPOINTMENTS WITH KEY U.S. OFFICIALS CONCERNED WITH THE VESCO CASE. HE SPECIFICALLY ASKED IF IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE TO HAVE AN INTERVIEW WITH SENATOR JACKSON OR ANOTHER SENATOR ON THE PERMANENT SENATE INVESTIGATING COMMISSION WHICH IS DEALING WITH VESCO. HE IS ALSO INTERESTED IN APPOINTMENTS WITH KEY OFFICIALS CONCERNED WITH LATIN AMERICA POLICY IN GENERAL. EMBASSY HOPES ESPINOSA'S INTERESTS CAN BE ACCOMMODATED. PLEASE ADVISE.

2. COMMENT: ESPINOSA IS A BRIGHT YOUNG REPORTER HELD IN HIGH REGARD BY "LA NACION" DIRECTOR GUIDO FERNANDEZ. HE HAS DONE SOME GOOD WORK PROBING INTO ASPECTS OF THE VESCO AFFAIR IN COSTA RICA. A FIRM ARRIVAL DATE WILL BE PROVIDED SHORTLY. ESPINOSA'S ENGLISH IS LIMITED. EMBASSY RECOMMENDS THAT DEPARTMENT PROVIDE NORMAL FACILITATIVE ASSISTANCE IN ARRANGING APPOINTMENTS REQUESTED AND THAT ESPINOSA BE GIVEN STRAIGHT-FORWARD BRIEFINGS BASED ON THE PUBLIC RECORD.

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